

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A light-emitting diode pumped laser and method of excitation. The laser apparatus emits a beam of coherent light directed along an optical axis, and includes a first and second optical element; at least one light-emitting diode; a
5 gain medium; and a guiding member. The light-emitting diode produces a beam of light directed along an optical excitation path transverse to the optical axis of the laser apparatus. The gain medium is disposed in the optical axis and the optical excitation path, intermediate the first and second optical elements, for producing the beam of coherent light along the optical axis. The guiding member
10 directs the beam of light produced by the light-emitting diode toward the gain medium.